IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-26 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the recited subject matter.

Please ADD new claims 27-34, as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, all claims currently presented are reproduced below.

1-26. (Canceled)

27. (New) A moving apparatus comprising:

a first movable body which moves in a first direction in a horizontal plane;

a second movable body arranged in a location different from a location of said first movable body in a vertical direction, which moves in a second direction intersecting with the first direction in the horizontal plane;

a first linear motor which moves said first movable body in the first direction;

a second linear motor which moves said second movable body in the second direction;

a third movable body which is moved in the first direction by receiving a force from said first movable body and is moved in the second direction by receiving a force from said second movable body;

a vacuum container which puts said first, second and third movable bodies in a vacuum;

a first driving force transmission rod which connects said first movable body and a moving element of said first linear motor that is located outside said vacuum container;

a second driving force transmission rod which connects said second movable body and a moving element of said second linear motor that is located outside said vacuum container; and

a sealing mechanism for sealing said first and second driving force transmission rods and said vacuum container,

wherein said first driving force transmission rod has its longitudinal direction along the first direction and passes through a wall of said vacuum container in the first direction, and

said second driving force transmission rod has its longitudinal direction along the second direction and passes through the wall of said vacuum container in the second direction.

28. (New) The apparatus according to claim 27, further comprising:

first and second bearings for guiding one side of said first movable body and one side of said second movable body, respectively, and restraining said first and second movable bodies at least in vertical and horizontal directions; and

third and fourth bearings for guiding the other side of said first movable body and the other side of said second movable body, respectively, and restraining said first and second movable bodies at least in the vertical direction.

29. (New) The apparatus according to claim 28, wherein said first and second bearings are radial bearings.

30. (New) The apparatus according to claim 27, further comprising a static pressure bearing for guiding said first, second and third movable bodies.

31. (New) The apparatus according to claim 27, wherein said first and second linear motors are ultrasonic linear motors.

32. (New) The apparatus according to claim 27, wherein

said first linear motor includes a pair of linear motors for transmitting driving forces to two sides of said first movable body, and

said second linear motor includes a pair of linear motors for transmitting driving forces to two sides of said second movable body.

33. (New) An exposure apparatus using the moving apparatus according to claim 27.

34. (New) A semiconductor device manufacturing method comprising the steps of:

(a) setting a group of manufacturing apparatuses for performing respective types of processes, including an exposure apparatus, in a semiconductor manufacturing factory; and

(b) manufacturing a semiconductor device in accordance with a plurality of processes by using the group of manufacturing apparatuses,

wherein said exposure apparatus uses a moving apparatus which comprises:

(i) a first movable body which moves in a first direction in a horizontal plane;

(ii) a second movable body arranged in a location different from a location of the first movable body in a vertical direction, which moves in a second direction intersecting with the first direction in the horizontal plane;

(iii) a first linear motor which moves the first movable body in the first direction;

(iv) a second linear motor which is moved in the first direction by receiving a force from the first movable body and is moved in the second direction by receiving a force from the second movable body;

(v) a vacuum container which puts the first, second and third movable bodies in a vacuum;

(vi) a first driving force transmission rod which connects the first movable body and a moving element of the first linear motor that is located outside the vacuum container;

(vii) a second driving force transmission rod which connects the second movable body and a moving element of the second linear motor that is located outside the vacuum container; and

(viii) a sealing mechanism for sealing the first and second driving force transmission rods and the vacuum container,

the first driving force transmission rod having its longitudinal direction along the first direction and passing through a wall of the vacuum container in the first direction, and

the second driving force transmission rod having its longitudinal direction along the second direction and passing through the wall of the vacuum container in the second direction.